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ORGANIC MAGNETIC MATERIALS

by
Paul M. Lahti, Andrew Ichimura,
Mark Kearley, David Modarelli

Prepared for Presentation to

The Massachusetts Centers of Excellence Corporation
Division of Polymer Science and Plastics Technology
Symposium
at Sturbridge, Massachusetts
3 March, 1988

University of Massachusetts Department of Chemistry Amherst, MA 01003

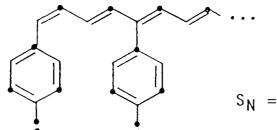
Submitted June 22, 1988

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BACKGROUND -- THEORETICAL STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS

CONNECTIVITY in conjugated pi-radical polymers



- alpha spin site
 - beta spin site

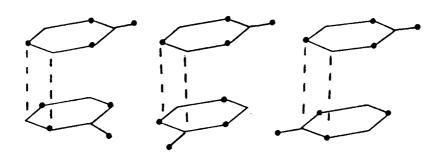
$$S_N = (N_{\bullet} - N_{\cdot})_n \longrightarrow \infty$$

monomer
$$N_{\bullet} - N_{\cdot} = 1$$

so $S_{N} \longrightarrow \infty$

Thus, a polymer chain of odd alternant radical units in pi-conjugation is qualitatively predicted to be superparamagnetic (high-spin).

3-D STACKING in conjugated pi-radicals



triplet

singlet

triplet PREDICTED

McConnell has predicted the qualitative effect of various geometries on coupling between alternant radicals, and which types of coupling should lead to high-spin (ferromagnetic) spin states. The important criterion is to allow coupling of sites with opposite (alpha vs. beta) spin-density.

PROPOSED AND ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS

THEORETICAL WORK

- Use molecular mechanics and semiempirical AM1 (AMPAC) to predict geometries of model polyradical systems.
- Use AMPAC and INDO-CI to obtain related energies for states of different multiplicity —— is high spin preferred, and for what type of pisystem connectivities? how great is the gap from ground to excited state?
- Use ab initio theory for select small diradicals that are potential models for monomeric units of polymers.

Theory can serve as the guide for experiment.

EXPERIMENTAL WORK

- Develop a convenient method to generate polyradicals (esp. phenoxy) thermally and photochemically
- Synthesize polyradical models to polymeric polyradical super-paramagnets
- Study methods to generate and study polyradical models in matrix and in solid solution with an inert polymer
- Eventually, use lessons learned from model studies to aim at synthesis of polymeric polyradical ferromagnets
- Experiment is the crucial test of theory

THEORETICAL FINDINGS

3-D STACKING IN PHENOXY RADICALS

.0

T-S gap kcal/mol

ortho 0.7

meta -0.1

para 0.8

Geometry by molecular mechanics, T-S gaps by AMPAC.
RESULT -- Computed ground states in accord with McConnell hypothesis of spin interactions.

CONNECTIVITY EFFECTS ON POLYRADICAL GROUND STATES

Oligomeric models

.0000

INDO T-S gap kcal/mol

2 5

0.4

-2.0

Monomeric models

II.

INDO T-S gap ab initio expt. 18.6

11.9 10.1

-0.6 -1.7

4.0 -In progress

at UMass

-11.3 -6.6 In progress at Yale

These are examples among a large number of INDO-CI calculations supported by ab initio work and confirmed by experiment.

RESULT — The INDO-CI model seems sufficient for semi-

RESULT -- The INDO-CI model seems sufficient for semiquantitative predictions of ground state multiplicity.

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL COMPOUNDS TESTS OF THEORY

INDO/CI indicates small T-S gap for II (~1 kcal/mol)

GOALS:

- Final bis-methylenation to give diradical precursor I. INDO-CI predicts triplet ground 1)
- state, supported by ab initio theory

 2) Low temperature matrix photolysis of I, looking for triplet EPR signal and UV-vis absorption attributable to II

 3) Determine stability of triplet II, as a potential monomer in an organic magnetic material

DEVELOPMENT OF RADICAL GENERATION CHEMISTRY

STRATEGY:

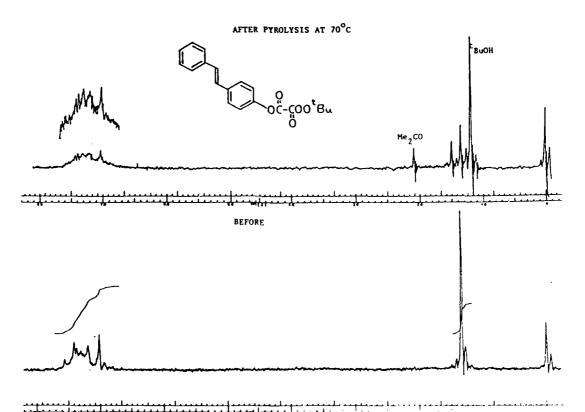
It would be useful to produce phenoxy radicals thermally or photochemically. In principle, one might thereby produce a magnetic record in a polymer containing polyradical precursors by irradiation or heating. A fairly active moiety is needed to produce radicals, yet with sufficient stability to allow subsequent chemistry in preparing a polymer.

PRESENT SOLUTION:

$$\frac{AroH}{-----} > tBuO-O-C-C-O-Ar -\frac{85x}{60^{\circ}} > tBuO \cdot CO_{2} \cdot CO \cdot ArO \cdot$$

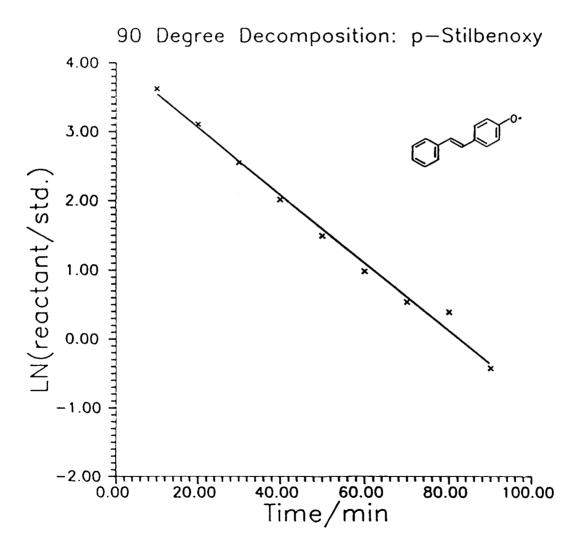
RESULT:

Decomposition of peroxyoxalates yield typical radical products.



ONGOING STUDY OF PEROXYOXALATE DECOMPOSITION

RESULTS -- good first order decay



FUTURE PROSPECTS

SYNTHESIS OF POLYRADICAL MODELS

DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER RADICAL PRODUCING MOIETIES

BUILDING RADICALS INTO POLYRADICAL POLYMERS

$$=CH - CH = ? = CH - CH = OCCO_{2}R$$

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